



MARCH FOR SCIENCE

APRIL 14, 2018

CONTACT

Teresa Swanson
March for Science - Seattle
612-520-1763
logistics@marchforsciencesea.com
marchforsciencesea.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH FOR SCIENCE - SEATTLE

Focused on Science's Silenced Voices

Gathering at Cal Anderson Park at 10:00 am Saturday, April 14, 2018, followed by the two-mile walk to the Seattle Center starting at 11:30 am, scientists, educators, and science supporters will return to the streets of Seattle to raise their collective voices in support of science and evidence-based policies in the second annual March for Science - Seattle.

"This year's volunteer March team is committed to bringing underrepresented voices in science—women, people of color, teens, and the marginalized—to the forefront," says Brigit Stadler, Project Manager for March for Science - Seattle.

Partnerships Coordinator Stacy Smedley adds that this year's pre-march rally features local voices and introduces national voices as well, both in theme and choice of speakers.

"We are bringing in the national perspective to stress that silenced voices in science remains a glaring issue and cause we all must fight for."

To be true to this commitment, the pre-march rally will feature Nancy Pelosi, Democratic Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives for the 115th Congress and Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, the first Indian-American woman elected to the House of Representatives, representing Washington's 7th

district. Both Leader Pelosi and Congresswoman Jayapal have deep commitments to increasing diversity in STEM, investment in research, and building a cleaner, smarter, more cost-effective energy future that creates hundreds of thousands of clean energy jobs.

At last year's event, more than 25,000 scientists, educators, and science supporters joined forces with the National March for Science in Washington, DC and more than 500 satellite marches worldwide to protest the new administration's U-turn from the Obama administration's strong advocacy for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) technologies and education, clean air and water policies, and its commitment to the 2015 Paris Climate Accord.

And in the year since, the seeds of resistance planted on march day have blossomed both here in Seattle and nationwide. A record number of scientists have signed up to campaign for state and US congressional seats in this year's midterm elections. Congress not only overrode the administration's proposed deep cuts to scientific research, they voted to increase the science budget—the Senate approved a \$1.3 trillion spending package that includes funding for the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, NASA science programs, and others. Following his speech at the march last year, 14 states have joined Governor Jay Inslee and the U.S. Climate Alliance to continue pursuing the goals and specifications outlined in the Paris Accord, despite the administration's decision to withdraw last June.

Scientific and environmental sponsors will be hosting tables at the pre-march rally and marchers will enjoy live music along the route to keep in time to and make their voices heard. This year's rally will also feature a food drive for the those who suffer from food insecurity throughout King County. Please bring food or cash donations for Northwest Harvest. (Visit marchforscienceseatle.org/food-drive for food donation guidelines.)

The march is a family event—scientists, future scientists, and science supporters are all welcome. Women, people of color, LGBTQ+, and teens are urged to attend. Participants are encouraged to bring signs, banners, and moderately-sized flags with positive messages about science. Signs should be mounted on cardboard posts—poles and wooden posts are discouraged. Large bags may be subject to search.

The March for Science - Seattle champions robustly funded and publicly communicated science and evidence-based policies as a pillar of human freedom, prosperity, and posterity, promotes and defends evidence-based education for STEM disciplines, and supports policies and actions that promote the healing and longevity of our planet for future generations. The MFSS serves as a hub for amplifying the voices and concerns of scientists, and advocates for underrepresented voices in science and our community—promoting inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility and supporting policies for all.

For more information or to make a donation, visit marchforscienceseatle.org/donate or contact Teresa Swanson at logistics@marchforsciencesea.com.

SPEAKERS

Pramila Jayapal - Member of the U.S. House of Representatives for the 115th Congress, Representing Washington's 7th district

Nancy Pelosi - Democratic Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives for the 115th Congress

Jamie Margolin - Student Activist and Zero Hour Organizer

Dr. Marco Hatch - Assistant Professor of Environmental Science, Huxley College of the Environment, Western Washington University

Geneva Betnel and **Megan O'Reilly** - Straw Collection Activists

Adriana L. Germano - Third-Year Ph.D. Student in Social Psychology, University of Washington

Timothy (TJ) Greene - Board Member for The Nature Conservancy, Former Makah Tribal Council Chair and Chief of Police

Nick Montoni - Founder of oSTEM at the University of Washington, Fourth-year Ph.D. , UW

Cheri Cornell, J.D. - Executive Director, Washington Women for Climate Action Now

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